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Introduced Version

**HOUSE  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_**

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DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION honoring the late Francis Marion "Frank"  
Hendley, II, on the anniversary of his 90th birthday.

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**Elrod, Frizzell**

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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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A HOUSE RESOLUTION honoring the late Francis Marion "Frank" Hendley, II, on the anniversary of his 90th birthday.

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley was born February 24, 1917, in Birmingham, Alabama, the youngest son of Seay Smith Hendley, Sr., of Fountain Run, Kentucky, and the former Loula Mae Dixon of Upton, Kentucky;*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley attended Norwood Grammar School and Phillips High School in Birmingham, Alabama, completing the 11th grade in 1933;*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley volunteered in the United States Coast Guard Reserves on August 18, 1942, in Louisville, Kentucky;*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley was immediately called to active duty and served his country with valor in the Pacific Theater during World War II as a member of the amphibious assault forces assigned to the U.S.S. Hunter Liggett;*

*Whereas, These sea units were issued a commendation on January 11, 1943, by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet for "the movement of large numbers of troops into and out of the Guadalcanal-Tulagi area without the loss of a single soldier from enemy action";*

*Whereas, On May 21, 1944, a commendation was issued designating Francis Marion Hendley as a member of*



*Admiral William F. "Bull" Halsey, Jr.'s "Fighting Team" ;*

*Whereas, On November 20, 1944, Major General Roy S. Geiger, U.S. Marine Corps Commanding, issued a commendation to Mr. Hendley's unit Boat Pool Eleven "for the outstanding conduct displayed in fighting a fire in the fuel dump on Puruate Island (Bougainville)....worked to the point of physical exhaustion to limit the loss of supplies in the fire that resulted from bombing by hostile aircraft merits the high esteem of the entire command";*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley received a commendation from Oliver O. Kessing, Captain, Commanding Naval Base Torokina, for operations on November 29, 1943, stating: "The Commander Naval Base expresses his thanks and admiration for the outstanding work of Boat Pool Eleven in evacuating the paratrooper battalion. Every man involved showed the old navy guts and the example of each man is an inspiration to our fighting forces. Well Done.";*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley operated a landing craft in invasions of Guadalcanal, America's first amphibious operations since 1898, to Bougainville and was honorably discharged October 10, 1945, with the rank of Boatswains Mate 2nd Class;*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley was awarded numerous decorations, including the World War II Victory Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with Three Battle Stars, the Combat Action Ribbon, the American Campaign Medal, the American Defense Service Medal with Fleet clasp, and the Coast Guard's Good Conduct Medal;*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley married the former Martha Elizabeth Edmondson of Gainesville, Georgia, on February 10, 1945, while on leave from the Coast Guard, a union resulting in five children: Joyce Clarisse Todd of Raleigh, North Carolina; Patricia Ann Kitching of Norcross, Georgia; Reverend George Meredith Hendley of Dallas, Texas; Ginger Lynne Lanier of Naples, Florida; and Pastor Dan Dixon Hendley of Palm Bay, Florida;*



*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley returned to work at the Louisville, Kentucky, office of the Gordon Foods Company, where he had began work in January 1937 as a salesman; he was sales supervisor at the time of his enlistment;*

*Whereas, Upon his return from the military, Francis Marion Hendley was promoted to district manager, organizing salesmen in the states of Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee;*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley was instrumental in changing the company slogan from "Trucks Serving the South" to "Trucks Serving the Best";*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley left Gordon Foods in 1952 and moved to Ocala, Florida, where he joined Graggs & Hendley Realtors in Silver Springs, first as a salesman and later as a partner;*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley entered politics in 1964 as a candidate for the office of Marion County tax assessor but was defeated in the primary; in 1968, he waged a valiant campaign defending the "Homestead Exemption" but was defeated after a hard fight in the general election;*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley was elected the first national president of The Hendley Family Association, Inc., on November 22, 1975, leading the association with honor and distinction during his term of office from 1976 to 1977, living up to the motto of the Hendley Family Association of "It is appropriate today that we pause to remember who we are, where we came from and what we have been taught" (Tennessee Governor Ned Ray McWherter, January 17, 1987);*

*Whereas, Francis Marion Hendley made many contributions to the business and public communities as a rancher, cattleman, real estate broker, and salesman; he was a valiant sailor, public servant, and a dedicated family man;*

*Whereas, It was these attributes that led Lieutenant Governor John M. Mutz, under the authority of the Indiana*



*Department of Commerce, to appoint him an Honorary Hoosier on April 6, 1982;*

*Whereas, Since his passing on November 15, 1986, Francis Marion Hendley has been honored by the legislatures of the seven states where he resided: Indiana 1989, Alabama 1991, Florida and Kentucky 1992, Georgia 1993, Tennessee and California 1994;*

*Whereas, U.S. Senator Richard G. Lugar paid tribute to Hendley from the U.S. Senate floor and a flag was flown over the U. S. Capitol in his honor; Sen. Lugar said "It is with pleasure that I offer this tribute to a loyal and true patriot who served his family and his country with great distinction." (Congressional Record February 24, 1995 Pages S3135 & S3136); Mayor William H. Hudnut, III, also praised Hendley as "a man of great influence and fortitude, and Indiana has felt his presence far beyond the years that he lived here," (August 23, 1988): Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives  
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,:*

- 1       SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly commemorates the
- 2       legacy of Mr. Francis Marion "Frank" Hendley, II, on the anniversary
- 3       of his 90th birthday, 20 years since his passing and 30 years since he
- 4       led The Hendley Family Association, Inc., as its first national president.
- 5       SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the Indiana House of
- 6       Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to: Mr. William
- 7       H. Hendley, National President, The Hendley Family Association, Inc.;
- 8       Mrs. Edith L. Kirk, Clan Elder, The William Meredith Hendley Clan;
- 9       Mr. Donald E. Hendley, President, The William Meredith Hendley
- 10      Clan; Ms. Lilly M. Eisenmenger, President, The Francis Marion
- 11      Hendley Clan; and Pastor Dan D. Hendley, M. Division.

